

public. After the presentations, the session was opened up for questions. The discussion, as intense as it was, centered on international relations and Taiwan's policies. Many views were exchanged.



*A group photo of presenters and participants.*

### ■ CCS Research Grant Recipients Present Research Findings

The CCS held two lectures on Sep. 7 and invited two scholars receiving Research Grants for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies to share the results of their research. The first was Dr. Rafal Smoczynski, assistant professor at the Polish Academy of Sciences; the second was Dr. ArunKumar Yadav, assistant professor at Nalanda University in India.

Professor Smoczynski spoke on “Religion and Economy: Exploring the Role of Religious Convictions in Shaping Attitudes of Business People.” According to data gathered from Poland and Taiwan, he believes that religious behavior can restrict speculation in economic activity. Furthermore, it can promote innovative reforms for middle and small business that are subject to challenges by corruption and underground economy.

Professor Yadav spoke on “A Comparison of China's Ullambana Festival and India's Pitru

Paksha, and Their Connection to Hinduism and Buddhism.” He holds that in the transmission of Buddhism, sacrificial ceremonies from India were transplanted to other countries in different forms. He also compares and contrasts China's Ullambana Festival and India's Pitru Paksha based on ancient sutras, festival times and content, and religious value.

## CCS News and Activities

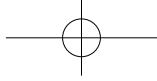
### ■ 2016 MOFA Taiwan Fellowship Recipients Welcome Party

MOFA's Taiwan Fellowship, which is handled by NCL's Center for Chinese Studies, held a welcome party for this year's recipients on Jul. 26 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The party was hosted by Deputy Foreign Minister Javier Ching-shan Hou. Invited to attend were fellowship recipients and their families, representatives of the hosting institutions in Taiwan, ambassadors and representatives from related countries, scholars in Taiwan on U.S. Fulbright grants, NCL Director-General Tseng, and visiting scholars at the CCS.



*A group photo of all the 2016 Taiwan Fellowship recipients.*

Deputy Foreign Minister Hou's remarks



welcomed the foreign scholars to Taiwan and stated that the purpose of this welcome party was to provide an opportunity for them to interact with people from Taiwan and to deepen their understanding of Taiwan's foreign policy and direction, with hopes that it would create future opportunities of exchange in academics and foreign relations.

NCL Director-General Tseng also introduced the CCS in her speech. The CCS began processing MOFA's Taiwan Fellowship in 2010 and took charge of administrative duties and hosting foreign scholars. The CCS arranges classes, conferences, tours, and cultural activities on a regular basis so that in addition to conducting research in Taiwan, foreign scholars can also experience authentic Taiwanese culture in all its variety.

A wide selection of delicacies was available at the welcome party. A picture slideshow produced by the CCS staff was also played, highlighting past events. This gave the newly arrived scholars a basic understanding of what future events to be anticipated.



*Dale W.C. Jieh (4th from right) poses with the NCL representatives.*

### ■ Autumn Tea Party for Visiting Foreign Scholars—"Dialog between Tea and Music"

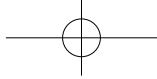
The CCS held an Autumn Tea Party for visiting foreign scholars at National Central Library on Sep. 12. Attending the "Dialog between Tea and Music" themed party were foreign scholars in Taiwan on research grants from CCS or the Ministry of Education. A total of 39 scholars and their families from 24 countries attended the event in celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival.

The event began with a musical performance of "Ye Shen Chen," performed on a traditional jinghu, followed by remarks from NCL Director-General Tseng and Wen-chieh Jieh, Director of the Department of Policy Planning in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the party, scholars and their families enjoyed moon cakes, pineapple cakes, and pomelos. Staff from the CCS also demonstrated a traditional tea ceremony.



*Prof. Daniel Francisco Sorichetti dances Latin style with Pro. Nuchmudee Chaisatit.*

Scholars took turns introducing themselves and performing individual talents. Professor Jana S. Rosker from the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia performed Su Dongpo's "Shui diao getou" in Chinese (Kun opera) and English (jazz). Professor Fernando Alonso from Piloto de Colombia University in Colombia sang English, Spanish, and French versions of "Bésame Mucho."



Finally, Secretary of the Chinese Cultural Exchange and Education Association, Mr. Pan Junren performed in full costume the role of Ms. Du Liniang from the Kun opera “Youyuan jingmeng,” taking the performances of the evening to a climactic ending. Scholars enjoyed wonderful conversation amongst themselves about experiences living in Taiwan, as well as resources and insights from their different fields of research.



Mr. Pan performs in full costume the role of Ms. Du Liniang.

## News from Taiwan Libraries

### ■ New Taipei City Library Study Buddy Service Uninterrupted; Disadvantaged Students Issued Meal Vouchers

New Taipei City Library began offering after-school study buddy services in November 2013. Now two years and seven months later the service is becoming increasingly widespread. It began with 14 service centers in 12 regions, but now has 34 service centers in 28 regions serving approximately 27,300 students.

It also issues 8,546 meal vouchers. This summer the service extended to the entire city, and the NTD 80 meal vouchers were issued in greater numbers to students with physical and mental disabilities. The summer also saw new free art courses, as well as crafts, DIY science experiments, reading and writing, creative math, drawing, intellectual board games, summer movies, and story activities—providing these students with a rich summer break.

### ■ National Huwei University Library Begins Use of Its Automated Electricity Control System

In an effort to reduce carbon use and protect the environment, National Huwei University Library was renovated into an energy-saving, environmentally-friendly building. It was reopened in September of this year. More than 25,000 people visit the library each year, so demands on electricity are large.

After installing the automated system, the library has realized the following benefits: 1) enabled the library to reach its goal to centralize energy-saving controls; 2) when the CO2 index reaches its preset threshold, fans are automatically switched on to ensure high quality air; 3) introduced LED lighting with timed turn-off. Over 30% reduction in electric usage has been realized in lighting alone.

### ■ Beitou Branch of the Taipei Public Library Included in Top 10 of the Most Beautiful Libraries in the World

This year *Business Insider* selected the best designed libraries throughout the world and the Beitou Library in Taipei made it into the top 10. Beitou Library’s full length windows not only